

55920. PLOCAMA PENDULA Ait. Rubiaceæ.

From Orotava, Canary Islands. Seeds presented by Juan S. Bolinaga. Received November 10, 1922.

"A species of low-growing shrub found on the slopes of the arid hillsides in the Canary Islands. It has a most beautiful weeping habit, giving the plants the appearance of tiny weeping willows not over 2½ to 3 feet high. This would be very beautiful as a cover for dry hillsides overlooking the sea. It has already been brought into cultivation and will probably withstand severe drought." (*David Fairchild.*)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 21611.

55921. POSOQUERIA LATIFOLIA (Rudge) Roem. and Schult. Rubiaceæ.

From Ancon, Canal Zone. Seeds presented by James Zetek. Received November 14, 1922.

"The very conspicuous white flowers of this rubiaceous plant have a sweet perfume somewhat like that of the orange jessamine (*Chalcas exotica* Millsp.)." (*Zetek.*)

A shrub, sometimes 25 feet high, native to the forests of northern Bahia, Brazil, where it grows in dry sandy soil with but little water. It flowers in February, and its succulent fruits, which ripen in July, are sold in the native markets for making marmalade and jelly. The greatest value of the shrub, however, lies in the finely grooved rigid branches, which are highly prized for walking sticks. These are exported to England under the name of "Brazilian oak." (Adapted from *Kew Bulletin of Miscellaneous Information*, 1904, p. 9.)

A handsome plant, worthy of general trial in tropical regions.

55922. CUCUMIS MELO L. Cucurbitaceæ. Muskmelon.

From Angol, Chile. Seeds presented by the Instituto Agrícola Bunster. Angol. Received November 13, 1922.

"The melons of Chile, which ripen during the months of February, March, and April, are famous for their delicate flavor and remarkable keeping quality. Recently a number of them have been shipped from Valparaíso to New York, reaching the latter market in good condition. This seed is to be tested in our Southwestern States." (*Wilson Popenoe.*)

55923. PUNICA GRANATUM L. Punicaceæ. Pomegranate.

From Tangier, Morocco. Seeds presented by Jules Goffart. Received November 14, 1922.

"A variety of pomegranate with white flowers and fruits, which I found in Reunion. In flavor the fruit is slightly more acid than most varieties. When in flower and in fruit the tree is very ornamental." (*Goffart.*)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 40856.

55924. DIOSCOREA PENTAPHYLLA L. Dioscoreaceæ. Yam.

From Aulnay sous Bois, France. Tubers presented by Prof. R. de Noter, École d'Acclimatation de Recherches Agricoles. Received December 7, 1922.

Variety *Hortorum*.

"*Igname ronde de Chine* (round yam of China). The tubers made the first season, from plants grown from 'eyes' dug and replanted, weigh 1½ kg. each; the second year the tuber may weigh 4 to 5 kg. The plant requires light sandy clay or, better, calcareous, richly fertilized soil. The tubers are gathered at the first frost and stored in the cellar. Two years' storage does not injure but improves the tubers. This yam is an excellent vegetable of delicate flavor and makes delicious fritters, cakes, and soufflés. The leaves, after the harvest, are used as cattle feed." (*De Noter.*)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 52867.